

## ***Eryngium petiolatum* Hook.**

Oregon coyote-thistle  
Apiaceae (Parsley Family)

**Status:** State Threatened

**Rank:** G4S1

**General Description:** Fibrous-rooted perennial from a short simple crown, 6 to 20 inches tall, divaricately branched, often from near the base. Basal petioles more or less elongate, hollow, septate-nodose, commonly bladeless. Cauline leaves with progressively shorter petioles, the blades narrowly elliptic, up to about ½ inch wide or less. Bracteoles often conspicuously surpassing the flowers and fruit, sometimes slightly bluish-tinted, but the heads not appearing bluish. Calyx lobes about ⅛ inch long, acuminate. Corolla apparently white. Fruit more or less ovoid, about 1/16 inch long, covered with prominent gradually tapering scales that are basally hollow, slightly inflated, and mostly <1/16 inch long.

**Identification Tips:** Only two species of *Eryngium* occur in Washington. *Eryngium petiolatum* occurs in southwestern Washington and the Columbia River Gorge. *Eryngium articulatum* occurs near the Idaho border.

**Phenology:** Flowering occurs from June to August.

**Range:** The species occurs from the Willamette Valley of Oregon to the eastern end of the Columbia Gorge in Washington and Oregon. In Washington, the taxon is restricted to a very small area within western Klickitat and Clark counties.

**Habitat:** Wet prairies and low ground, especially in places submerged in the spring and drier in the summer.

**Ecology:** Historically, the wet prairie areas where *Eryngium petiolatum* occurs were maintained by Native Americans through periodic burning. Fire suppression has resulted in the invasion of these wet prairies by woody vegetation.

**State Status Comments:** There are only 3 known sites in Washington.

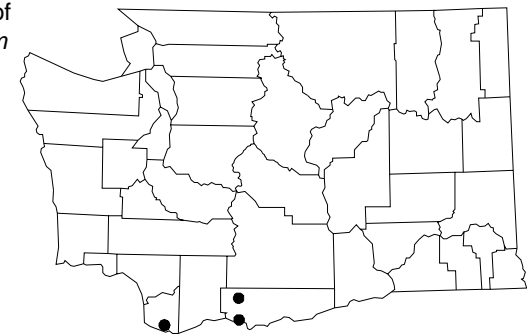
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Known distribution of  
*Eryngium petiolatum*  
in Washington



- Current (1980+)
- Historic (older than 1980)

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**Inventory Needs:** Additional inventory in Klickitat County, particularly in the Glenwood/Conboy, Trout Lake and Lyle areas is needed.

**Threats and Management Concerns:** Hydrological alteration through residential and industrial development poses the greatest threat to the taxon. Grazing and agricultural conversion are also potential threats.

**References:**

Hitchcock, C. L., A. Cronquist, M. Ownbey, and J.W. Thompson. 1961. *Vascular Plants of the Pacific Northwest, Part 3: Saxifragaceae to Ericaceae*. University of Washington Press, Seattle. 614 pp.

